

Message Text

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ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FPC-01 H-01 INR-07
INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-06
SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-07 PRS-01 PA-01
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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: TGEN, OTRA, ENRG, SP
SUBJECT: INFORMAL MEETING OF JOINT COMMITTEE FOR SCIENTIFIC &
TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION

REF: MADRID 2219; MADRID 2283

1. SUMMARY: AN INFORMAL WORKING MEETING OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE FOR SCIENTIFIC & TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION WAS HELD IN MADRID ON MARCH 24 AND 25. SPANISH SIDE WAS REPRESENTED BY SRS. PASTOR, BENAVIDES AND CUERVO. SR. BARROSO, JOINT COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRMAN, PARTICIPATED BRIEFLY. US SIDE WAS REPRESENTED BY EMBOFFS CLEMENT AND BREISKY, ASSOSTED BY OES REPS FRY AND GORSEY. SR. BARROSO STRONGLY EXPRESSED AGREEMENT THAT EMPHASIS IN THE TREATY S & T PROGRAM SHOULD GO TO RELATIVELY LARGE COOPERATIVE PROGRAMS, AMONG WHICH HE SINGLED OUT SOLAR ENERGY (REF MADRID 2219). SR. BARROSO, WHILE INITIALLY RELUCTANT TO RULE OUT PROPOSED APRIL 21 DATE FOR A PLENARY MEETING OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE, CONCLUDED AFTER FURTHER CONSIDERATION THAT THE MEETING MIGHT HAVE TO BE DELAYED, AND SUGGESTED MID-MAY (REF MADRID 2283). THE WORKING MEETING WAS USEFUL AND CORDIAL. CONSIDERABLE PROGRESS WAS MADE IN ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS, PARTICULARLY WITH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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REGARD TO MANAGEMENT OF FUNDS, AND STAFFING FOR THE COMMITTEE SECRETARIAT. MEASURES FOR FURTHER PROGRESS WERE PLANNED.END SUMMARY.

2. DISCUSSION INITIALLY CENTERED ON REMNANT FUNDS FROM 1970 AGREEMENT, ABOUT WHICH SPANISH RAISED SEVERAL QUESTIONS. AS A RESULT OF DISCUSSION, AGREEMENT WAS REACHED THAT:

--US SIDE WILL INVESTIGATE POSSIBILITY OF PROVIDING SPANISH SIDE WITH COPIES OF INTERIM AND FINAL NSF REPORTS ON 1970 AGREEMENT PROGRAMS.

--US SIDE WILL OBTAIN NSF PLANS FOR USE OF REMAINING PD&M FUNDS, INCLUDING THOSE IN COURTESY TRAVEL CONTRACT UNDER 1970 AGREEMENT.

--US SIDE WILL PROVIDE TERMINAL DISBURSEMENT DATES APPLICABLE TO REMNANT 1970 AGREEMENT FUNDS (TRANCHE 1-4), TRANCHE 5 FUNDS, AND OBLIGATION AND EXPENDITURE DEADLINE FOR FY 1977 FUNDS. US SIDE WILL ALSO PROVIDE PROJECTED AVAILABILITY DATES FOR REMAINDER OF TREATY FUNDS.

3. TURNING TO OTHER 1976 TREATY BUSINESS, BOTH SIDES AGREED TO PUSH FOR COMPLETION BY RESPECTIVE US AND SPANISH AGENCIES, PRIOR TO APRIL 15 "CONVOCATORIA" DEADLINE, OF A JOINT PROPOSAL FOR SOLAR RESEARCH, WITH A VIEW TO POSSIBLE JOINT COMMITTEE APPROVAL OF FUNDING AT THE UPCOMING PLENARY MEETING.

4. AGREEMENT WAS REACHED THAT POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS AND TRAVEL GRANTS WOULD COME UNDER THE CEILING FOR DIRECT RESEARCH GRANTS (I.E., NOT MORE THAN 10 PERCENT OF TOTAL S & T PROGRAM).

5. IN RESPONSE TO SPANISH REQUESTS FOR DETAILED INFORMATION, US SIDE AGREED TO PROVIDE:

--A MEMORANDUM REGARDING US GOVT PRACTICES WITH REGARD TO CHARGING INDIRECT COSTS.

--FURTHER INFORMATION IN REGARD TO PROVISION FOR PATENTS RESULTING FROM US-FUNDED RESEARCH.

6. THE U.S. SIDE OUTLINED POSSIBLE PROCEDURES FOR MANAGING THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THREE CLASSES OF GRANTS. THE SPANISH SIDE AGREED IN PRINCIPLE TO US PROPOSAL FOR ROUTING FUNDS FOR DIRECT RESEARCH AND INSTITUTIONAL GRANTS VIA AN EMBASSY ACCOUNT TO THE SECRETARIAT OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE FOR DISBURSEMENT. THE SPANISH SIDE OBJECTED TO THE US PROPOSAL FOR ROUTING ALL COOPERATIVE RESEARCH FUNDS THROUGH US COUNTERPART AGENCIES, SUGGESTING THAT THESE FUNDS BE TRANSFERRED TO COOPERATIVE AGENCIES OF BOTH SIDES, IN ACCORDANCE WITH APPROVED PROGRAM BUDGETS. FUNDS TO SPANISH AGENCIES WOULD BE ROUTED THROUGH THE EMBASSY TO THE SECRETARIAT. US AGREED TO STUDY THIS PROPOSAL AND ADVISE.

7. THE SPANISH SIDE AGREED TO A US REQUEST THAT THEY PREPARE A DRAFT OF PROPOSED PROCEDURES FOR FUNDS MANAGEMENT FOR ALL 3 CLASSES OF GRANTS.

8. EACH SIDE AGREED TO PROVIDE THE OTHER WITH THE TEXTS OF APPROPRIATE LAWS AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE DISPOSITION OF INTEREST THAT MIGHT ACCRUE FROM THE MAINTENANCE OF JOINT SIGNATURE ACCOUNTS IN MADRID, INCLUDING THE QUESTION OF SPANISH

GOVT TAXATION ON THE INTEREST.

9. THE US SIDE AGREED TO PRODUCE A DRAFT PROPOSAL GOVERNING TREATY-FUNDED TRAVEL, TO INCLUDE ANY RULES ABOUT COMPANIES TO BE USED, CLASS OF TRAVEL, AND TRAVEL-RELATED EXPENSES.

10. REGARDING THE STAFFING AND OPERATION OF THE COMMITTEE SECRETARIAT, BOTH SIDES AGREED ON THE IMPORTANCE OF PREPARING GUIDELINES FOR SECRETARIAT OPERATION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. THEY FURTHER AGREED TO SEEK APPROVAL FROM THEIR RESPECTIVE CO-CHAIRMEN FOR IMMEDIATE PROVISION OF \$30,000 FROM S&T FUNDS TO FINANCE INITIAL OPERATIONS AND A PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT FUND, SUCH AGREEMENT TO BE EXPRESSED VIA DIPLOMATIC NOTE. THE US SIDE AGREED TO DRAFT THE APPROPRIATE INITIAL NOTE.

11. THE US SIDE WILL FURTHERMORE PROPOSE, FOR FORMAL APPROVAL VIA DIPLOMATIC NOTE, THE PROCEDURAL GUIDELINES ALREADY AGREED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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UPON INFORMALLY FOR MANAGEMENT OF THE PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT FUND.

12. SR. BARROSO'S REMARKS, REPORTED IN PARA 1, WERE MADE DURING A COURTESY VISIT WHICH PRECEDED THE MARCH 25 MEETING.

13. THE MEETING WAS CONDUCTED THROUGHOUT IN A FRIENDLY AND COOPERATIVE SPIRIT, AND BOTH SIDES EXPRESSED SATISFACTION AT THE PROGRESS MADE. EMBASSY APPRECIATES THE EFFORTS OF MESSRS. FRY AND GORSEY, WHOSE VISIT WAS MOST USEFUL. EATON

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